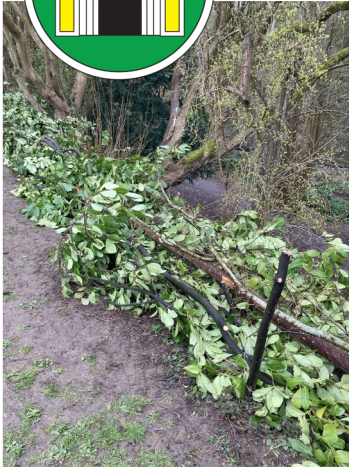




LOVAR GARDEN UPDATE



WORKS IN THE WOODS

“This is a fantastic project, spanning our themes of conservation and improving access. The project will encourage more wildlife and we hope the residents enjoy the new benches and site interpretation.”

James Webb, Partnerships and Fundraising Lead at Cotswolds National Landscape.

Box Parish Council are excited to announce that we have been awarded a grant of £2,350 by the **Cotswolds National Landscape** scheme and another for £2,500 from the **Wiltshire Community Foundation**, to assist the Parish Council in its long term project aimed at improving the Lovar Garden for people and nature. This Project started with a dead Willow tree at the centre of the pond (there’s more life in a dead tree than a living one).

As you stroll through the Lovar Garden in the coming weeks, you will notice work and changes happening in the area. The laurels have been coppiced to allow more sunlight onto the slope, improving this habitat from a dark and barren area into a dappled sunlit slope, encouraging a wider range of native plants to grow.

Snowdrops, Foxgloves and primroses have been planted and a dead hedge built at the top of the slope to protect emerging plants.

The work has been carried out by Parish council employees and the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens and in the future, we hope to get local people to volunteer and form a working group to help with ongoing improvements.

New seats will be positioned along the walk to allow for rest and quiet contemplation.

This is just the first phase of a 3 year plan which will includes adding bird and bat boxes, interpretation boards and reinstating the footbridge. The plan will soon be on the parish council website and we have set up the

‘Lovar Garden Wildlife watch’ facebook page for anyone interested in this project.

Chair of Box playing fields committee



“We are delighted that Lovar Walk Conservation Project was awarded a grant from the Wessex Water Recovery Fund. It is already an important and much-loved area and the funding will enhance the existing habitats as well as people’s access to and enjoyment of it.

Our local green spaces are more important than ever for both our physical and mental health and this brilliant community project will ensure that both villagers and walkers can feel the benefit of this beautiful area.”

Fiona Oliver Wiltshire Community Foundation Joint chief executive

